

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 00459 250949Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7542

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0459

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CEAUSescu, NICOLAE), US, RO
SUBJECT: CEAUSescu VISIT TO U.S.

REF: STATE 011402

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU INFORMED ME THIS MORNING THAT PRESIDENT CEAUSescu ACCEPTS APRIL 12-13 DATES FOR WASHINGTON PORTION OF STATE VISIT. CEAUSescu ASKED THAT HIS WARM APPRECIATION BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT CARTER. I RECONFIRMED THAT STATE VISIT INVITATION WAS FOR PRESIDENT AND MRS. CEAUSescu AND IN ADDITION TO WASHINGTON INCLUDED FOUR DAYS ELSEWHERE IN U.S. AND INDICATED THAT WE WOULD WELCOME AN INDICATION OF CEAUSescu'S DESIRES FOR THIS PORTION OF VISIT. MACOVESCU SAID GOR WAS REVIEWING THIS QUESTION WITH CEAUSescu AND AWAITED SUGGESTIONS FROM AMBASSADOR NICOLAE. THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS PROGRAM SOMETIME IN FEBRUARY.

2. I TOOK LIBERTY OF INFORMING MACOVSCU THAT TIMING OF PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF CEAUSescu VISIT WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH GOR. HE AGREED AND SAID CUSTOM WAS ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THREE WEEKS PRIOR TO ACTUAL TAKE-OFF. HOWEVER, THERE HAD ALREADY BEEN SOME PRESS SPECULATION AND BECAUSE IT WAS GENERALLY KNOWN THAT VISIT WAS "UNDER CONSIDERATION," PERHAPS AN EARLIER BRIEF
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 00459 250949Z

STATEMENT--AS UK HAD MADE FOR JUNE 13-16 VISIT TO UK-- WOULD BE INDICATED.

3. MACOVSCU SAID THERE WAS QUESTION OF POSSIBLE CANADIAN VISIT THIS SPRING AND ASKED ME TO INQUIRE WHETHER U.S. WOULD OBJECT TO VISIT TO CANADA IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING U.S. STATE VISIT. MACOVESCU SUGGESTED CANADIANS MIGHT PREFER VISIT PRIOR RATHER

THAN AFTER U.S. STATE VISIT. PLEASE ADVISE.

4. COMMENT: I REALIZE THAT TIMING OF CEAUSESCU VISIT TO U.S.
HAS BEEN CONDITIONED BY TIMING OF THAT OF ANOTHER EASTERN
EUROPEAN VISITOR, BUT I WOULD HOPE THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROMANIAN
PRESIDENT'S VISIT COULD BE SCHEDULED OR MADE IN SUCH A WAY AS
TO AVOID OBVIOUS LINK OR PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.
AGGREY

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